

41

2551



## EYEPiece TO INSTRUMENT COUPLER

10/024,732 ✓

Invented by Richard L. Crockett

### COMMENTS:

RECEIVED  
JUL - 8 2003  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

At examiner's request, claims 1 through 7 were restated to eliminate indefinite phrases containing words such as may and can, to words such as shall and will etc. as well as restructure the paragraph to the "One sentence per claim structure." No additional change to the claim itself was attempted other than this requested re-wording.

It seemed that the "run-on sentence structure" caused by the re-wording lacked a certain ability to convey the limitations being claimed so it was felt necessary to add the Claim #8. #8 has been defined as "NEW" but can be found to have been contained in the original #7. I suppose it could have been called a "Re-presented formerly dependent Claim #7" but Claim #7 was not deleted. Instructions available only show a "Re-presented" claim as being deleted. In the original Claim #7 and the current Claim #8, both describe the invention having a base plate with a specially tapped hole in one end of a slot cut partway down the length of said base plate. This is to allow a tripod socket screw with the lower portions of its threads undercut by an amount equal to the thickness of the base plate, to thread into the base plate. When the tripod socket screw is threaded in far enough to reach the undercut, it becomes free to slide up and down the slot. I am strongly inclined to believe that #8 is a re-presentation of most but not all of #7 but again I have no specific example to conclude that it may be defined as such.

The past few weeks I have been helping my folks with medical situations so when I returned two days ago I was chagrined to find this hitch and only one business day to take care of it. It had been my understanding (perhaps misunderstanding) based on my specifically asking, that I did not need to present anything but the clean sheet which you now have. I am only glad I did not have to postpone my return or I would not have been able to make the 30 day limit. My Email is crockett@arczip.com. Please use it for timely communication.

I want to hone my Patent Skills to help others in this economically depressed area. Two Patent Attorneys felt my original application was adequate (of course that was free advice among friends and we all know what that is sometimes worth) but my examiner differed so I believe this help is needed. Thank You and have a good day!